

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please replace all prior versions of the claims with the following listing of the revised claims.

In The Claims:

1. (currently amended) A medical implant comprising: a cannula formed from at least a first layer and a second layer, said first layer and said second layer each being made of a different non-synthetic, natural tissue, said cannula being further characterized by the absence of a synthetic support structure, wherein said cannula comprises a plurality of openings ~~an opening~~ extending through a wall defined by said first layer and said second layer, said plurality of openings forming a pattern of struts.
2. (original) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein one of said first layer and said second layer comprises cartilage.
3. (original) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein one of said first layer and said second layer comprises small-intestine submucosa.
4. (original) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein said first layer comprises a structural layer supporting said cannula against a vessel wall, and wherein said second layer comprises growth factors encouraging said vessel wall to grow within said second layer.
5. (original) The medical implant according to claim 4, wherein said first layer is an inner layer and said second layer is an outer layer.
6. (original) The medical implant according to claim 4, wherein said first layer comprises cartilage.

7. (original) The medical implant according to claim 4, wherein said second layer comprises small-intestine submucosa.

8. (original) The medical implant according to claim 4, wherein said first layer comprises cartilage, wherein said second layer comprises small-intestine submucosa, and wherein said first layer is an inner layer and said second layer is an outer layer.

9. (original) The medical implant according to claim 8, wherein a drug is incorporated with said cannula.

10. (cancelled).

11. (original) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein said cannula comprises at least a third layer in addition to said first layer and said second layer, at least two of said first layer, said second layer and said third layer being made of different non-synthetic, natural tissues.

12. (original) The medical implant according to claim 11, wherein said first layer comprises small-intestine submucosa, said first layer being an inner layer, wherein said second layer comprises cartilage, said second layer being a middle layer, wherein said third layer comprises small-intestine submucosa, said third layer being an outer layer, and wherein a drug is incorporated with at least one layer of said cannula.

13. (currently amended) The medical implant according to claim 12, ~~wherein said cannula comprises a plurality of openings extending through said wall thereof, said plurality of openings forming a pattern of connected struts, and~~ wherein said drug is Paclitaxel.

14. (original) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein one of said first layer and said second layer is infused with a drug.

15. (original) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein said first layer is an inner layer and said second layer covers said first layer, wherein an outer diameter of said first layer is coated with a drug.

16. (original) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein Paclitaxel is incorporated with said cannula.

17. (cancelled).

18. (currently amended) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of openings are ~~opening is~~ formed by cutting through said wall with a laser.

19. (original) A medical implant comprising: a cannula formed from a wall of a non-synthetic, natural tissue, said cannula being further characterized by the absence of a synthetic support structure, wherein said cannula comprises a plurality of openings extending through said wall thereby forming a pattern of connected struts.

20. (original) The medical implant according to claim 19, wherein said wall comprises cartilage.

21. (original) The medical implant according to claim 19, wherein said wall comprises small-intestine submucosa.

22. (original) The medical implant according to claim 19, wherein said wall is formed from at least a first layer and a second layer, said first layer and said second layer each being made of non-synthetic, natural tissues.

23. (original) The medical implant according to claim 22, wherein said first layer and said second layer are each made from different non-synthetic, natural tissues.

24. (original) The medical implant according to claim 23, wherein said first layer comprises a structural layer supporting said cannula against a vessel wall, and wherein said second layer comprises growth factors encouraging said vessel wall to grow within said second layer.

25. (original) The medical implant according to claim 24, wherein said first layer is an inner layer and said second layer is an outer layer.

26. (original) The medical implant according to claim 25, wherein said second layer comprises small-intestine submucosa.

27. (original) The medical implant according to claim 23, wherein said wall comprises at least a third layer in addition to said first layer and said second layer, at least two of said first layer, said second layer and said third layer being made of different non-synthetic, natural tissues.

28. (original) The medical implant according to claim 27, wherein said first layer comprises small-intestine submucosa, said first layer being an inner layer, wherein said second layer comprises cartilage, said second layer being a middle layer, wherein said third layer comprises small-intestine submucosa, said third layer being an outer layer, and wherein a drug is incorporated with at least one layer of said wall.

29. (original) The medical implant according to claim 19, wherein said wall is infused with a drug.

30. (original) The medical implant according to claim 19, wherein said plurality of openings are formed by cutting through said wall with a laser.

31. (original) A medical implant comprising: a cannula formed from a wall of a non-synthetic, natural tissue, said cannula being further characterized by the absence of a synthetic support structure, wherein said cannula comprises a plurality of openings

extending through said wall thereby forming a structure of connected struts, said structure being expandable thereby supporting said cannula against a dilated vessel wall.

32. (original) The medical implant according to claim 31, wherein said wall comprises cartilage.

33. (original) The medical implant according to claim 31, wherein said wall comprises small-intestine submucosa.

34. (original) The medical implant according to claim 31, wherein said wall is formed from at least a first layer and a second layer, said first layer and said second layer each being made of non-synthetic, natural tissues.

35. (original) The medical implant according to claim 34, wherein said first layer and said second layer are each made from different non-synthetic, natural tissues.

36. (original) The medical implant according to claim 35, wherein said first layer comprises a structural layer supporting said cannula against a vessel wall, and wherein said second layer comprises growth factors encouraging said vessel wall to grow within said second layer.

37. (original) The medical implant according to claim 36, wherein said first layer is an inner layer and said second layer is an outer layer.

38. (original) The medical implant according to claim 37, wherein said second layer comprises small-intestine submucosa.

39. (original) The medical implant according to claim 35, wherein said wall comprises at least a third layer in addition to said first layer and said second layer, at

least two of said first layer, said second layer and said third layer being made of different non-synthetic, natural tissues.

40. (original) The medical implant according to claim 39, wherein said first layer comprises small-intestine submucosa, said first layer being an inner layer, wherein said second layer comprises cartilage, said second layer being a middle layer, wherein said third layer comprises small-intestine submucosa, said third layer being an outer layer, and wherein a drug is incorporated with at least one layer of said wall.

41. (original) The medical implant according to claim 31, wherein said wall is infused with a drug.

42. (original) The medical implant according to claim 31, wherein said plurality of openings are formed by cutting through said wall with a laser.